ST. DOMINGO.

A Quick Trip and Pleasant Passage.

Interesting Letiers of Our Special Correspondents.

Samana Bay and Its Beauties--The Yankee Visitors Delighted.

SALUTING THE WRONG GOVERNOR

Fame of the New York Herald.

Primitive Costumes of the

OVERLAND TO THE CAPITAL

VILE MUD AND VILE COOKERY.

The Commissioners Received by the Dominican President.

BAEZ AND WADE AS SPEAKERS.

INVESTIGATING THE LAND JOBS.

Nor Grant Nor Babcock Implicated.

Jerry Sullivan's Leases-The Speculations of Cazneau, Fabens and Spofford.

this port yesterday, from South American ports, via St. Thomas, we have the grailfying intelligence of arrival of the United States steamship Tenby the Commission in the examination into condition of that island, all of which will be found in the full and interesting letters of our special correspondents attached to the expedition.

The Trip to Dominica-Lively Sketches of the Commission and Its Attaches—Obliteration of Social Barriers. ON BOARD THE U. S. FRIGATE TENNESSEE, AT SEA, Jan. 19, 1871.

SPECULATIONS ABOUT THE COMMISSION. If this noble ship does not carry Cæsar and his she may carry, in a measure, the fate of In other words, President Grant, having the annexation of St. Domingo the most minent question of his administration, and the the result of this expedition may make or him. Should the Commission find the con-St. Domingo favorable to annexation, and nld the press, which is largely represented on ical territory may be annexed. In that age the colat of success would strengthen the ad parial expansion and aggrandizement would be gratified, and General Grant would greatly improve his chances for re-election. On the other hand tion and should the leading press of the country denounce the scheme the result of the expedition might prove damaging to General Grant. The nower mi opposition which has been shown already in Congress by leading republicans, as well as by the dem ocrats, would be strengthened, and if the Presiden should be able to force annexation through under Such circumstances the consequence might be almost as bad as utter fallure. There is, then, more political significance in this jaunt to the Antilles than most people may imagine.

What, then, is the prospect? Of course nothing can be determined at present. But, looking at the character of the Commission, at the views expressed by the Commissioners, and at all the surroundings ture. The general view is open enough to give your correspondent a forecast of the probable result Still nothing can be known definitely till the Tenneasee is ready to head homeward again. The Com mission is instructed to explore, or, at least, is at liberty to explore, a great many things on the earth, under the earth and over the earth. The disposition of the people of St. Domingo generally relative to n, the character of the population, the products and capabilities of the soil, the miners resources, the nature of the harbors, the bona fide debt, as well as the possible speculative debt of the government, the reported jobs of Fabens, Cazneau cock and others, and, if possible, the attitude of Cabrai and the other leaders who are hostile to President Baez or to annexation, as also, if practiall to be determined.

ATTACHES OF THE COMMISSION. ers and Secretary, several other secretaries, each Commissioner having one, stenographers, botanists. a naturalist, geologist, skewning artist and others, whose positions or qualifications have not yet been fully developed. Then there is the important auxiltary corps of the press, composed of about a dozen on fellows, who will do quite as much exploring se the Commission, or a little more, and who are expected to exploit the Commission itself pretty thoroughly. It will be said, doubtless, there is plenty or work for the whole party-work enough

so last for months, if carried through according to

she resolution of Congress and the professed pur-

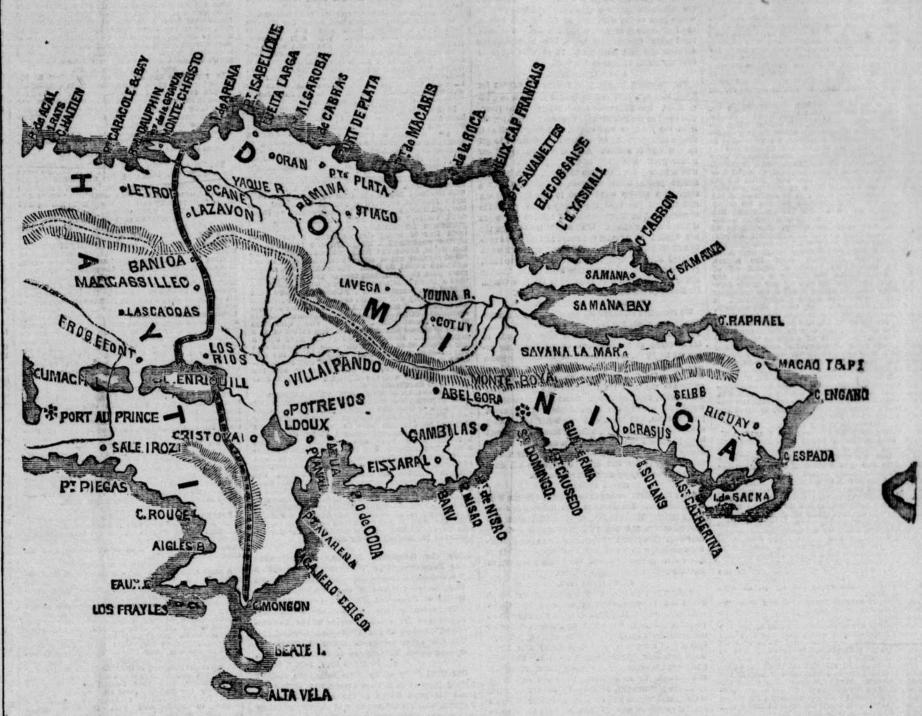
THE COMMISSIONERS.

Then, Old Ben Wade, the President of the Commission, who is earnest, thorough-going and honest in everything, says he "intends to know all about 14." He means to get at all the facts necessary to make a complete report, and to report according to the facts, whether they be in favor of or against nnexation. Still it is not likely the Commission will remain at the island over a few weeks. The ex plorations in geology, mineralogy and the productions of the country must necessarily be of a general character and limited. A thorough exploration

No particular instructions, or instructions in de-Congress authorizing the Commission. The Pre-aident remarked, however, to Mr. Wade that he wanted sim to search for those lots which the opposition pressinas said were marked off in his name. He said he had nothing to do with any jobs or speculations of the kind, and if any one has used his name quanthorized he wants to know it. He wants to know, too, if theretoe any rascality or fraud underlying the scheme of annexation. Mr. Wade is conthat if he has been deceived or his name been improperly used by others, he wishes to have the rescality exposed. Apart from vindicating himself on the charges that have been made, the President made up the Commission, no doubt, with a view both to

PROPOSED TERRITORIAL ACQUISITION. OUR

The Boundaries, Mountains, Rivers, Harbors and Cities of St. Domingo --- Scene of the Labors of the United States Commission.



obtain a favorable report on the question of annexation and to create a good impression in the minds of

The President of the Commission, while he will perform his duty honestiv as far as the facts about St. Domingo go, is a believer in manifest destiny, is liberal and progressive, and has no doubt that all the countries and Islands of North America mus ne united in time with the great republic. Mr. Wade would throw no obstacles in the way of this inevitable progress, but would seize every fair opportunity to promote it. It is well known that he has earnestly favored the independence of Cuba, and that he looks forward to the time when that magnificent island shall become a part of the United States. Indeed, if he had been President of the re public there is every reason to believe Cuba would have attained its freedom before now. Mr. Wade, favoring annexation, then, as a policy no better choice could have been made by have confidence in what he may report or recom-mend. Mr. White, another Commissioner, is presihas no prejudices against annexation and no political object to serve. He is likely to favor the policy tion should be discovered. Dr. Howe, the other Commissioner, is the well known philanthrophist of Boston and the friend of Senator Sumner. He is disposed to be conservative and not a very earnest annexationist in any case, but, at the same time, is of this St. Domingo business. He will not throw any obstacles, probably, in the way of annexing Dominica if the conditions should be found not seriously objectionable. As his views may have considerable weight with the New England people, and even with his friend, Mr. Sumner, the selection of this gentleman by the President was politic. The secretary of

THE SECRETARY, MR. BURTON. Mr. Burton is somewhat of a progressive man particularly with regard to taking into our embrace the Spanish Americans. He was United States Minister to New Granada, and likes both the lan-guage and people of Spanish America. He will be

apt to favor annexation. Then, as his office is subordinate, and he being the paid servant of the ad-ministration, there is no doubt he will act in ac-

DOUGLASS AND SON.

But to give the Commission the complexion and all the shades, individually and politically, to serve the purpose of the administration, two colored per-sons—the famous mulatto orator, Fred Douglass, and his son-are attached to it, the former as assistant secretary and the latter as messenger. This is at once a sop to the radicals at home and a propitiation to the colored citizens of the Dominican republic. How can the Dominicans refuse the em-brace of the great American republic when they see one of their own race and color a dignified official and put on an equality with distinguished white

May not any one of them after this hope to be a member of Congress, a minister extraordinary or anything else under the glorious Stars and Stripes? No doubt this fact will be apread far and wide through St. Domingo to impress the people with the glorious future before them. It was an adroit stroke of policy to give the colored father and son an official character on the Commission. Nothing shows more the extraordinary social and political revolution our bountry has passed through within the last ten years than to see individuals of a see that such a short time ago was ensiaved and had no political rights now placed on an equality with the proud officers of the navy and some of the first men in the land. Who, ten years ago, would have supposed that by this time men of the negro race would sit at table and be on an equality in every respect with those wearing the gold lace uniform of the United States and the high civil representatives of the government? It must be said, it wever, that Fred Douglass bears his newborn elevation with dignity, equanimity and propriety.

SERNEAL STORE. PRACTICAL AMALGAMATION.

born elevation with dignity, equanimity and propriety.

Another element in this composite and variegated Commission is the fighting representative of the Germans in the war, and a representative of the Germans in the war, and a representative of the Germans in the war, and a representative of the Germans in the war, and a representative of the Germans in the war, and a representative of the said the position of Commissioner was offered to him and that he declined it. He is now classed as Assistant Secretary, but in reality has no position at all. This Secretary and Assistant Secretary dodge was resorted to by several persons as an excuse to set a passage on the Tennessee. Sigel's merely hondred appointment was for the purpose, doubtless, of gratifying the gallical Germans, and as a sort of offset to Carl Schuzz's opposition to the administration. The General, is a good fellow and an agreeable companion on byard, and his appointment serves that purpose at Jeast. His object in coming, probably, is to see if St. Domingo or any part of it is adapted to German Numigration.

St. Domingo, its history, resources and all about it were never more intently and thoroughly studied than by the Commission, the prese correspondents

and all on board. Books on the island in different languages and maps of it are carefully examined. Most of the conversations are on this subject. If nothing else should be accomplished a great deal of light will be thrown upon this interesting country. The Commissioners themselves will have the advantage of the researches of the newspaper correspondents, and it may be said, therefore, that these gentiemen are an important part of the Commission.

Arrival at Samana-Picturesque Aspect of the

Bay and Surroundings-Landing and Talk-

ing with the Natives-The Herald Correspondent in Demand-The Men of Science WITE UNITED STATES COMMISSION, SAMANA BAY, St. Domingo, Jan. 24, 1871.

After a run of seven days the frigate Tenness dropped her anchor in Samana Bay. The land,

Cape Samana, was seen at eight o'clock this mornng, and the voyage was finished at two O'clock in storms or any mishap. The Tennessee is a good sailer, and the winds have favored her. She has had the

though her steam power dees not exceed four or five miles an hour. One of her boilers has been taken out, and those remaining are only equal to this Captain Temple, who is in command, deserves great credit both for handling the ship in a careful and masterly manner and for his kind attentions to all on board. The Secretary of the Navy could not

have made a better selection for this important and lelicate service. The voyage could be made quicker, and pernaps in five days or little more, by

The shores on approaching Samana Bay are bold and high; hills rise up from the water's edge. The there is deep water all the way. The little town of Santa Barbara de Samana, which is the only one near here, contains 200 or 300 people. It is a collection of miscrable huts. This lies in the inner bay, in which a large vossel like the Tennessee could not ride. We are lying in the outer bay, about a mile from the town, in sixteen fathoms of water. It is a fine and safe harbor. The largest fleet could lie in it safely. The United States sloop Nantasket, Commander McCook, is lying here in the inner bay. FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

delighted with the scene. Many had not seen a tropical country before, and thought this a primitive dense forests of paims and of other trees, and the richness of the verdure. Only a tent here and there could be seen amid the dense tropical foliage, and there was no sign of cultivation except in spots of a few yards in extent around these very sparse and rude dwellings.

Soon after the anchor fell nearly all wanted to go ashore. The poats were soon lowered and the Commission and correspondents went to the little village mentioned. The people, nearly all colored, and of peared well pleased to see the vintors, but seemed incapable of extitement. The Dominican colonel in four sad looking specimens of soldiers appeared more intelligent than the rest.

INQUIRIES FOR A HERALD CORRESPONDENT.

more intelligent than the rest.

INQUIRIES FOR A HERALD CORRESPONDENT.

One of the first things he asked of the Commissioners was if the Herald correspon dent was among them? Your representative was a person of as much interest to him as the United States Commissioners. Even in this small and remote place the great independent journal of America is known and appreciated. The people expressed an earnest desire for annexation, and some old negroes who came here from Philadelphia many years ago spoke of it with tears of anxious joy in their eyes.

SPECIAL MESSENGERS TO ST. DOMINGO.

The Commissioners will send early to-morrow morning two special messengers overland to St. Domingo city with a despatch to Prosident Raez, informing him of their arrival here, of the object in coming to Samana Bay first and before presenting their credentials to him, which is for the purpose of taking coal on the way, and to assure him that no discourtesy is intended by this delay. This was Joemed proper, as the Commission may be delayed a week at this place, and as some explorations will be made on his territory in the meantime.

SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITIONS.

There will start to-morrow morning also two scientific expeditions up the bay, and to the interior of the country. The geologists propose to examine the reported coal fields and the sell and formation of this part of the island, while botanists and others will devote their attention to other branches of the people and their views as to annexation through the country as they go along. To accomplish tas and to take coal on board will hold, probably, the Commission as Samana Bay a week. Commander McCook, of the Nantasket, who has been kere some

Reception of St. Domingo Officials-No Dis tinction by Reason of Color-The Wrong Man Honored-The Right Man at Last sioners and Party at Work-Every. thing Rose Colored Except the Natives-A Visit-Investigation with Closed Doors-The New York Herald as Important as the ou-The Evidence Before the Com-

United States Steamer Tennessee, Samana Bay, St. Domingo, Jan, 29, 1871. RECEPTION OF DIGNITARIES.

th, the dignitaries and principal citizens of Santa Barbara de Samana were received on board by invitation and with the honor of a salute. They were ntroduced to the Commissioners and the other and after that were entertained with a cold collation in the cabin. The party was composed of the Colonel Commandante, Abren, who is the highest officer of the Dominican government here, except that General Acosta is the nominal Governor; the Catholic priest, lage magistrate, the man in charge of the flagstaff and several others-both official and unofficial. It ties, types and colors, from the light-eyed Caucasian race to the pure negro, black as the ace of spades. The Colonel Commandante is a fine-looking fellow, well educated and intelligent, and has travelled in Europe. He is a native Deminican, and seems to be of the Moorish-Spanish stock, with a touch, perhaps, of the aboriginal native of the island in him. He earnestly hopes for annexation, and appears to comprehend the power and destin of the United States. He proposed as a toast "The great republic which represents the liberty of the New World, and to the early accomplishment of the Monroe doctrine over all Spanish America." The padre is an Itslian, and a middle-aged, jovial sort of man. He has a great horror of Garibaldi and the liberals of Italy, who have cut down the temperal power of the Pope, but would not be averse to the rule of the American republic here, particularly if that should lead to an increase of his flock and present very scanty revenue. All the rest pray for annexation. One of these officials—the man in command of the flagstaff—is a pure negro, from the United States. He has been a long time here, is intelligent, speaks good English, and gave a good country round Samana. It was amusing to see how our negro servants fraternized with him. One of them, who waits at table, entered into an animated conversation with him in the cabin while the Commissioners and captain were conversing with the colonel and other guests. No doubt our simple minded servant thought this familiarity in the cap tain's cabin proper enough when he saw so much honor given to negroes-to men of his own race and

color. NO DISTINCTION BY REASON OF COLOR.

Then, have not the events of the war, the legislatiop of Congress and the established policy of the dominant radical party placed irrevocably the black man on an equality with the white? Had the captain noticed the incident referred to he might have smiled only, while appearing not to see it. He is sensible man, and, like all of us, yields to what is inevitable. Such incidents, however, show forcibly the surprising social as well as political revolution we have passed through, and where we are tending

THE WRONG CHIEF HONORED. The Commissioners and all on board supposed they had got held of the chief man here in Colonel Abren, and honored him accordingly; but it has been discovered since that there is another, who is governor over this section of the country, and that Abren is only the special agent and military com-mander here of the Dominican government.

THE RIGHT MAN.

The Governor is General Acosta, a full-blooded negro, but his title seems to be little more than gonorary, as Colonel Abren is the representative of President Bacz. There is another man whom some of the people call governor, though it does not appear why. He is ninety years of age, and a thin, dried up spectmen of humanity. It is hard to tell of what races he is compounded, but there is evidently good deal of negro blood in him, He was boru in Hayti, and remembers well the colonial government of the French republic and first empire, and the thrilling events of Toussaint's rule and career, There was nothing about his appearance or sur-There was nothing about his appearance or sur-roundings to indicate that he holds any official position. His head was enveloped in a cotton handkerchief, much in the manuer that the negroes

nary mulatto domestic. Except the respect that was paid to his great age he was regarded by He spoke English imperfectly, and, from his nervous. rapid manner of speaking it was difficult to understand him at times. Though he seemed to favor annexation, he was not enthusiastic, but rather reticent, on the subject.

THE PARTY AT WORK.

The Commission, with its corps of geologists, botanists and naturalists and the press correspondents, have been earnestly at work since we arrived at Samana. Several parties have been sent out from the Commission to explore the country bordering the bay, up to the mouths of the Yuna river and in the interior. Every day the Commissioners and others have been ashore to talk with the people of the village and to examine the so-called plantations, cultivated, and to ascertain what are the natural products of the soil.

COULEUR DE ROSE. Almost everything has a rose-colored hue to these gentlemen. Most of them have never seen a tronical country before, and this looks like a paradise to them. The sudden transition from cold and dreary winter at home to this warm climate and luxuriant verdure has made them very enthusiastic. Even the naked or half-clad, lazy natives appear to them a charming sort of people. It is amusing to hear them as they return to the ship exclaim in glow-ing langurge about the beauty and richness of the island. The English language is strained to the ut-most to find superlative adjectives with which to express their impressions. One man reports that he found a mahogany tree in the almost impenetrable interior worth \$1,000 as it stands. Another avows that an acre of land will support a family almost without labor, and that there is wealth in abungorgeous, splendid and marvellous. Of course the people of Samana, who feel interested in the question of annexation, or in the protectorate of the United States over them, make the best of everything. dance to be made with scarcely any effort. All is

tion of annexation, or in the protectorate of the United States over them, make the best of everything.

A HEALTHY PLACE.

According to their account there is no sickness here worth speaking about. One man, an industrious and enterprising white citizen of the United States, who has settled and acquired property here, declared this country the healthnest in the world, while in the room adjoining the one in which we sat and where he made the remark his only child was lying sick with fever. Then, the people say this is the hottest season of the year, though the Sun is ifteen or sixteen degrees the other side of the equator, and in June it is right over head. This is called the dry season, although it rans every day and often many times a day. We may imagine what floods come down in the wet season. These heavy and almost constant rains may, however, modify the temperature and make the season of the summer soistice cooler then it would be otherwise. Looking, then, at the motive the people of Samans have for making a favorable impression upon the Commission and those accompanying it, and the natural enthusiasm of nearly all in this expedition over a country so luxuriant and a climate so much in contrast with that they had just left, it is not surprising that everything is viewed in couleur de rose. Nor would the astonishing should everything be so represented by the Commission and correspondents.

Still, with all this exaggeration, the climate is most agreeable, the breezes en the bay and along the shore are baimy and refreshing, and the surrounding scenery is charming to behold. It is not an Arcadia, for there are no flooks or herds, no variegated landscapes, with cleared and highly cultivated lands, beautiful gardens and shrusberies, thandsome residences and comfortable cottages, fine churches and other things which make the civilized countries of the temperate zone so delightful. With the exception of a lew poorly cultivated spots of an

churches and other things which make the civilized countries of the temperate zone so delightful. With the exception of a lew poorly cultivated spots of an acre or so, or of a few acres at most, with a rade hut on each for a residence, widely apart, all the rest of the soil, and even up to the crown of the hills, is covered with a dense wood interlaced by shrubs and vines.

VEGETATION.

There is little raised for market except a few oranges and cocoa nuts. The soil almost everywhere is rich, and this is seen by the abundant and rapid growth of vegetation. Even n passing along ordinary bridle roads men invariably carry the machete to clear away the brush and vines that ordinary bridle roans men invariably carry the machet to clear away the brush and vines that grow so rapidly. Different varieties of the palm, including the cocoanut tree, grow abundantly, and where the latter are cultivated in little groves in the indemations of the bay and along the shore, flanked by the thick and dark green forest rising up the hills, the scene is beautiful. There is no doubt that the sugar cane, coffee, cocoa, oranges and all the products of the tropics would grow here abundantly if there were labor to cultivate the foll and men could be kept at work in this lazy climate. Without that the country must remain a comparative wilderness. Corn, probably, centld be raised with little labor and a great yield. It is said there is an abundance of mahogany and other valuable woods in the interior. But, after all, to improve this country is a question of labor, and the first thing is to ascertain where that is to come from.

ANOTHER VISIT OF OFFICIALS.

Yesterday the officials and principal men of Samana, to the number of about fireen, came on board again, including the veritable nominal Governor, General Acosta, by invitation of the Commissionary and this time role for the commission of t

ants now would soon be claimed if the United States annex the island. And, looking at the many governments, revolutions and conflicting authorshes there have been in St. Domingo, we should have a legacy of endless disputes and intigations.

Departure for St. Domingo City-Further Lations-Opinion About Jobs-Fred Douglass Goes for the Natives in a Speech-Santo Barbara do Samana-Native Bulls-The In-habitants-The Harbor of Samana.

UNITED STATES STEAMER TENNESSES, SAMANA BAY, St. DOMINGO, Jan. 30, 1871. We leave this morning early for St. Domingo city. The Commissioners pursued their investigations yesterday on shore. The register, or the man who keeps the records of Samana, whatever they call him, was not on board Saturday, when nearly all the principal men of the town were overhauted. The Commissioners thought he might be an important with several others. The evidence corroborates that taken yesterday. As was said in a former letter there is nothing to show that General Grant has any personal interest in Samana, or that General Bab cock or any of the President's official family has has in interest here it is covered up in the leases or purchases under other names; but it is not fair to nier this is the case in the absence of testim that effec.

The scientific exploring parties have returned, and make on the whole favorable reports. Professor W. P. Blake, the geologist and mineralogist of the Commission, who has charge generally of the scientific explorations, went up to the head of the bay or Gulf and mouth of the Yuna river in the snip's cutter, with the special object of examining the reported coal mines near there. He reports to the tertiary brown coal, indicating beds of considextent and favorably situated for working and for transportation to the Guif. He does not regard it as of any value for ocean steamers, but as likely to prove of some economical value to this region as fuel for local steamers on the Gulf, for making gas, and, possibly, for use to locomotives in case a rail-way should ever be laid along the great valley. No other valuable minerals so far have been discovered.
All agree that the soil is very rich and generally
deep, even to the tops of the hills or small mountains. The botauists and naturalists have found some interesting specimens new to them. No detailed reports from them have yet been made up.

Though there may be no jobs, as far as our government efficials are concerned, in land speculations at the town and inner bay of Samana, the lease of the little coaling island and privileges of the bay to the United States for \$150,000 a year looks very for such property and privileges. Futly thousand dollars a year would be too much, and the Domini-can government probably would have been glad to have got less. Others besides Baez, there is reason to suspect, have their hands in this job. One year's rent of this lesse ought to be enough to buy up nearly all the land around the harbor.

Pred Douglass made a characteristic speech in the little plaza yesterday to the denizens of Sa-mana. Notice had been given two or three days previously that he would speak. About 130 people-men and children-were there to listen to the colored orator, and about half of them understood. what he said. He talked about the glory and greatness of the United States, and dwelt especially on the deliverance of the negroes from slavery. He asked them if they had heard of Summer, Abraham Lincoln—the Moses of the negroes—